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EAST GERMAN ECONOMIC PLAN FOR 1955Taegliche Rundschau,  
Berlin, 22 May 1955

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic has approved the following goals for the 1955 Economic Plan:

## I. INDUSTRY

Industrial gross production in 1955 is to be 5.1 percent greater than in 1954.

The share of socialist enterprises in the 1955 industrial production will amount to 85.5 percent, that of the private enterprises to 14.5 percent. Socialist enterprises will increase their production 5.6 percent over 1954 production. Private enterprises are being given the chance to expand their production 2.1 percent. The development of the GDR economy, as set forth in the 1955 Economic Plan, enables the craft enterprises to increase their production 7.6 percent.

Electric Power

Gross production of electric energy is to be increased 12.8 percent over the comparable 1954 figure. The production of electric energy in 1955 will be 13.7 percent greater than in 1954, and that of gas 10.9 percent greater. The specific consumption of electrical power is to be reduced in all branches of industry through the development and application of consumption standards for electricity.

The [standard] trial periods for new capacities in the electrical energy program are to be observed, and the measures necessary for further reduction of these periods are to be taken.

Mining

Total mining output is to be raised 8.6 percent over 1954 output, including output in coal mining 9.5 percent and in ore mining 9.8 percent.

The most important assignment for coal mining in 1955 is the elimination of delays in opening new surface mines for brown coal and the full utilization of briquetting capacities.

Metallurgical Industry

1955 production in the metallurgical industry is to be 0.2 percent greater than 1954 production.

The 1955 output of the most important products of the metallurgical industry is scheduled to be as follows (in percent of 1954 output):

Raw steel in ingots	105.5
Rolled steel	105.7
Heavy bar steel	106.3
Light bar steel	102.2
Seamless pipe	141.0

To ensure greater production of steel and rolled products, ore mining is to be increased 12.3 percent and the production of pig iron 13.8 percent over the respective 1954 figures.

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All efforts must be made to ensure the rolled-steel supply of the economy from domestic production in the qualities and assortment needed.

#### Iron and Metalworking Industry

The introduction of an improved technology and the construction of new machines and equipment is a priority task in the iron and metalworking industry. By improving the quality of the products and by adjusting production to the wishes of GDR trade partners, GDR trade relations are to be broadened and strengthened.

The profitability of production in the iron and metalworking industry must be improved decisively through an increase in labor productivity, good work organization, better utilization of capacities, standardization and norming of products, and lowering of material consumption.

The output of important products of this industry is to be as follows (in percent of 1954 production):

Water-tube and high-pressure boilers with a capacity of over 100 tons of steam per hour	110.0
Agricultural machines	139.6
Potato-harvesting machines	306.0
Harvester combines	263.3
Machines and appliances for the textile industry	111.6
Freight cars	126.8
Passenger automobiles	110.6
Trucks, H 3 A	123.9
Motorcycles	194.9
Fishing boats	216.8
Sewing machines for household use	114.2
Electrical household and heating appliances	143.0
Watches	116.0
Motion-picture cameras for narrow film	278.5
Mirror-reflex cameras	135.2

#### Chemical Industry

Production of the chemical industry is to be raised 3.7 percent over 1954 production. In 1955, the main task of the chemical industry is the optimum utilization of available capacities, the most economical use of raw materials, and the consistent application of the latest achievements of science and technology.

The output of the most important products of the chemical industry is to be as follows (in percent of 1954 production):

Sulfur	102.6
Sulfuric acid	111.2
Calcined soda	120.9
Caustic soda	109.2
Calcium carbide	109.7
Nitrogen fertilizer	102.8
Phosphorous fertilizer	141.8
Caprolactam	142.9
PCU [PVC] powder	106.1
Synthetic rubber	105.4
Perlon silk	109.0
Perlon staple fiber	150.7

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The production of "Wolcylon" and of acetyl cellulose is to be started in 1955.

#### Building Materials

In 1955, the production of the building materials industry is to be increased 11.4 percent over 1954 production in order to meet the increasing demand of the building industry for building material, especially for residential construction and for rural building.

The output of the following commodities in particular is to be raised:

	1955 Production (% of 1954)
Cement	107.7
Bricks	118.9
Roofing tiles	102.7
Cinder blocks	211.8
Crushed rocks and fine gravel	111.8

The 1955 production of prefabricated concrete parts is to be 52 percent greater than in 1954. The standardization of prefabricated building parts is to be carried out according to a uniform basic measure.

New capacities in the cement industry are to be put into operation at the stipulated dates.

Production capacities in the brick industry are to be concentrated on hollow brick production, especially on the production of large hollow bricks, so that the 1955 production of hollow bricks will be 52 percent greater than 1954 production, including a tenfold increase in large hollow bricks.

To increase the supply of building material for walls and to improve the utilization of local building material reserves, 1955 production of these items is to be increased 82 percent over 1954 production.

Compared to 1954 production the production of glass and ceramics is to be increased 7.3 percent. In particular the output of the following products is to be raised:

	1955 Production (% of 1954)
Window glass	109.7
Sekurit glass (safety glass)	138.6
Stove tiles (Dutch tiles)	104.8

#### Light Industry

The following main tasks are to be solved by the various branches of light industry:

Compared to 1954 production, the woodworking industry will increase its production 3.3 percent; at the same time, the production of furniture will have to be raised 9.4 percent, that of musical instruments 28.4 percent, and that of cultural goods 12.8 percent. The consumption of wood is to be lowered and the use of substitute materials to be extended.

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Windows and doors for the building industry have to be manufactured to a greater extent in standard types and sizes. Large-scale production of windows and doors is to be organized in special enterprises.

In 1955, output of the textile industry is to be as follows (in percent of 1954 production):

Artificial silk, all kinds	103.5
Perlon silk	113.6
Perlon fiber	150.7
Yarn, all kinds	102.8
Fabrics, all kinds	106.0
Cotton-type fabrics	115.6
Artificial silk and artificial silk mixture	113.9

The products of the textile industry have to be further improved in quality, the assortment is to be expanded, and the latest developments in the use of Perlon and "Wolcylon" is to be applied in increasing measure.

Production of the needle-trade industry is to rise 7.5 percent. Special attention is to be paid to timely deliveries of fashion articles to the trade organizations.

The task of the leather and shoe industry is the utilization and improved finishing of pigskin, and the improvement of the quality and expansion of the variety of shoes in accordance with consumer demand.

The artificial-leather industry is to promote the development of artificial leather without fabric backing.

Comprehensive mobilization of all domestic reserves is required to secure the supply of cellulose and paper required by the economy. The collection of old paper and other material must be increased considerably.

#### Food Industry

For a number of important products of the food industry, 1955 production is to be as follows (in percent of 1954 output):

Meat	105.7
Vegetable oil, refined	135.2
Margarine	114.9
Fish	159.1
Potato starch	192.0
Corn and wheat starch	143.6
Refined sugar	105.1
Cocoa products	115.7
Beer	105.1

To achieve the high targets of the fishing industry, the Ministry of the Food Industry is required to cooperate with the Ministry of Heavy Machine Building to ensure that the trawlers on order are manufactured and delivered at the scheduled time and put to immediate use.

Furthermore, there is to be strict control of the economical consumption in the production process of such important raw materials as sugar, grain (especially barley), and cocoa beans.

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All waste products and by-products are to be collected and used for the production of high-grade fodder.

## II. SAVING OF MATERIALS

The development and application of technically based material consumption norms, and the reduction of material stockpiling norms in the enterprises are basic conditions for increased profitability.

Chiefs of main administrations and managers of enterprises are charged with responsibility for giving comprehensive instructions to the workers and employees in the enterprises in their struggle for a reduction in material consumption and material stocks, as well as in the development and application of material consumption and stockpiling norms.

The instructions are to be combined with a control of the technical correctness and the application of existing material consumption and stockpiling norms.

In 1955, material consumption norms and the material stockpiling norms are to be developed in such a way that they may serve as the basis for the materials supply operations of the Second Five-Year Plan in the enterprises and administrations.

The material plan, the [perpetual inventory] card file on the use of materials, orders for materials, and all other data on materials in the enterprises must be based on material consumption norms.

The managers of enterprises must submit quarterly surveys on the status of development of material consumption norms and on the achievement of material savings. This survey must contain the following information:

Number of the materials consumption norms to be prepared

Number of the materials consumption norms actually prepared

Status of development of the material consumption norms

Number of personal accounts [for material savings]

Savings in materials achieved as to volume and value

Premiums paid out on the basis of personal accounts

The status of the materials consumption norms and the results of reductions in material consumption are to be discussed with the workers and employees.

To determine the development of material consumption in manufacturing enterprises, "coefficients of material utilization" (Materialausnutzungskoeffizienten) are to be ascertained for the various products of an enterprise.

The chief bookkeepers of the enterprises are obliged to check whether the requests for and the consumption of materials by an enterprise are supported by norms.

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The State Planning Commission, starting from the material consumption norms of the enterprises, must request exact statements of requirements from the state administrations concerning economically important materials and raw materials and must examine these statements as to their correctness.

The State Central Administration for Statistics must immediately organize a quarterly accounting statement for the economically most important material consumption norms. This statement must show in what way and to what a degree actual material consumption differs from the material consumption norms.

The Ministry of Construction is responsible for submitting to the Council of Ministers by 1 September a set of technical figures which show the maximum quantity of building material which may be used for any specific building project and the maximum account which may be charged for building costs.

### III. RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

To carry out the tasks outlined in the research and technology plan, definite efforts are required to raise the level of technology, as applied to production, and to create scientific-technical bases for the accomplishment of the goals of the Second Five-Year Plan. The following problems, in particular, have to be solved:

In brown coal mining, efforts have to be continued to exploit fully the possibilities opened up by modern technology for raising the volume of the mining output, for increasing labor productivity, and for economizing in the use of investment funds.

In the field of brown coal processing, the construction of central high-temperature brown coal coking plants and tar-processing installations must be preceded by improvements in coking methods, by work on the problem of phenol waste water and by developing and improving the existing tar-processing methods.

In the field of metallurgy, methods of processing domestic iron and non-ferrous ores are to be improved and new metallurgical materials are to be developed for the industries' processing of these products.

In the large-scale inorganic chemicals industry, the main tasks for research and development are in the fields of fertilizers and in the use of waste potassium hydroxide (Kaliendlauge, waste potash lye).

The main tasks for the large-scale organic chemicals industry lie in the improvement and expansion of the raw material base for the synthetic-material and chemical-fiber industry.

The machine building industry must develop modern and efficient conveyer and hauling installations for the mining and building industries, using welding methods with economical material consumption.

The development of equipment for the heavy industry, such as gas separation installations (Gaszerlegungsanlagen), refrigeration equipment, high-pressure vessels, etc., must be continued in increased measure.

New high-capacity machines must be developed for the foodstuff industry; they must meet all sanitary standards and must contribute to increased automation.

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The textile industry requires primarily the development of new finishing machines as well as high-capacity knitting, ring-spinning and ring-twisting machines with standardized machine section and with standardized machine parts.

Metal-cutting machine tools are to be further developed with regard to cutting capacity, cutting precision, and surface quality; in particular, automatic machines and machine aggregates for assembly lines are to be produced.

Special emphasis is to be placed on the development of methods, machines, and tools for noncutting shaping, such as high-capacity forging hammers, hydraulic presses, and tube rolling and drawing mills, because of the economy in materials which their utilization makes possible.

Installations for the generation and distribution of electric power are to be developed to achieve greater economy and safety of operation.

The road and rail vehicles produced in the GDR are to be further developed so that their structural weight and their fuel consumption will be lowered.

In the fields of communication technology, technology of production indicators and controllers, and in the precision instruments and optical industry, main emphasis is to be placed on the development of products which, when used in industry or transportation, will contribute to the increase of labor productivity or to the quality of industrial production and which will help in ensuring and expanding the export trade of the GDR.

In light industry, the technology of synthetic-fiber utilization is to be further developed; dyeing and finishing processes for the production of a more varied high-quality assortment of goods must be developed.

Processes for better utilization of wood, especially in the production of mechanical wood pulp and hemicellulose (half stuff), must be improved and additional substitute materials for wood must be produced.

In the building industry, the development of building methods which economize in the use of materials must be further promoted and continued according to plan, by laying special stress on mechanization and industrialization. Possible new uses for reinforced concrete are to be analyzed with the view to further economies in the use of steel.

In agriculture, machines must be further developed for the increased mechanization and automation of planting, cultivation, and harvesting. Work for the mechanization and automation of inside farm work (Innenwirtschaft) is to be taken up again in increased measure.

To increase the per-hectare yields, agriculture must devote itself primarily to the problem of growing new and better cultivated plants. In research to combat plant diseases and plant parasites, work on viruses, nematodes, and potato bugs must receive priority.

Work for the increase of animal production based on home-grown fodder must be given greater attention. In the field of veterinary medicine, work on epidemics control and on prophylactic treatment is to be expanded.

In the foodstuff industry, research on basic problems of nutrition and investigations of food freezing and quality improvement of foodstuffs and beverages must be continued with greater vigor.



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The ministries and state secretariats must furnish the necessary guidance and material support to the research and development departments to make sure that the work will be carried out according to plan. Definite rules have to be laid down for this purpose. The production capacities necessary for the construction of manufacturing samples and for experimental installations must be made available.

To exploit fully the results of the plan for research and technology, the necessary measures must be worked out for the systematic introduction of new types and methods of production.

The chiefs of the main administrations of the ministries and of the state secretariats bear full responsibility for the execution of the work under the research and technology plan. In addition to furnishing guidance and control for the research and development departments, they are required to give their special attention to the development of the scientific-technical cadres, especially within the production enterprises.

#### IV. LOCAL ECONOMY

Gross production of local industry is to be increased 5.4 percent and the production of consumer goods 10 percent over the comparable 1954 figures. The machine building industry is to raise its consumer goods production 17 percent, and the light industry, 8 percent; the production of furniture is to rise 19 percent and that of hardware, sheet-metal and metal goods 23 percent over the comparable 1954 production.

The production of building materials is to be 17 percent greater than in 1954.

The mobilization and collection of domestic and local material reserves must be stressed even more. On the basis of supply balances and according to plan, these reserves are to be made available to local [people-owned] enterprises, and are to be used for increased consumer goods production.

The local state organs must exert more influence on the production programs of the local industrial enterprises to effect and organize changes towards the production of consumer goods and of articles to satisfy agricultural needs.

The products of the enterprises of the local economy must be further improved in quality. The assortment of goods is to be broadened by the addition of technical novelties. Local trade must exercise more influence on these enterprises so that local production may satisfy local demand.

The State Secretariat for the Local Economy must furnish continuous guidance to the state organs on questions concerning the increase, improvement in quality, and technical perfection of the production of consumer goods in the local economy.

The Bezirk and Kreis councils must significantly improve the profitability of the local people-owned industrial enterprises and of the communal enterprises and facilities. In this endeavor, the State Secretariat for the Local Economy must aid the local state organs in uncovering sources of losses and in improving the work organization of the local enterprises by setting up model facilities and by conducting comparisons of enterprises.

In the interest of a continued rise in the standard of living of the population, the performance of the communal economy must be improved, especially in the fields of commuter services for workers, water supply, and

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other community facilities. More than before, the tasks of the communal economy must be integrated into the "National Reconstruction Work" of the Kreise.

The production of the crafts is to be increased 8 percent over the 1954 production. The crafts must also improve their repair work and their services both in quality and in quantity.

Private industry is to produce high-quality consumer goods, technical novelties, and export goods; it also must participate to a greater extent in repair work. In this connection, the production of building materials, especially bricks, must be considerably improved.

#### V. DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The main task of agriculture is the rapid increase in the production of animal and vegetable products in order to cover, to the largest extent possible, the growing requirements of the population from domestic sources and to furnish raw materials to industry.

Agricultural gross production is to be increased 17 percent over the comparable 1954 production. Animal production is to be raised 25.2 percent and vegetable production 9.3 percent.

Most important in animal production is an increase in the production of slaughter animals and milk. The animal population is to be as follows (in percent of 1954):

Pigs	104.0
Sheep	116.2
Cattle	108.7
Including milch cows	109.4

Fattening time for pigs is to be shortened further and the milk yield per cow is to be increased 10.7 percent over the 1954 yield.

Vegetable production must be further increased through complete utilization of agricultural land, through irrigation and drainage of 71,600 hectares of agricultural land, and by further raising the per-hectare yield.

Per-hectare yields for the main crops are to be fixed as follows (in percent of 1954):

Grain and legumes	112.7
Oil seeds	134.8
Root crops for fodder	100.0
Potatoes	102.0
Sugar beets	100.0

Intermediate crops must be planted on at least 25 percent of the cultivated land.

The MTS must further increase the mechanization of field work as compared to 1954; tractor work in general must be increased 33.9 percent, including field work 46.0 percent; performance per 30-horsepower tractor is to be raised 21.7 percent.

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To fulfill these goals, the number of tractors and other agricultural machines must be increased to the following levels (in percent of number available in 1954):

Tractors (calculated on 30 hp basis)	105.9
Seed drill machines	134.1
Potato planters	138.0
Cultivators and multipurpose appliances	130.0
Tractorbinders	109.6
Harvester combines	193.9
Potato diggers	129.2
Including potato harvesters	350.9
Beet diggers	133.0
Including beet harvesters	154.8

The people-owned farms are to be developed into large agricultural model enterprises, especially through improvements in management and the application of scientific knowledge in the field of agrobiolgy and agricultural technology. Compared with 1954, gross production of the people-owned farms in 1955 is to be increased 5.4 percent, including animal production 9.3 percent and vegetable production 3.4 percent. Production costs are to be lowered.

Economy of operation of the agricultural producer cooperatives must be further improved. To achieve this goal, animal stocks and their productivity must be increased, the work organization must be improved, building operations must be carried out more rapidly and cheaply through the formation and increased use of building brigades, and wages must be consistently geared to performance.

Every agricultural enterprise is permitted to increase its income through the free sale of its increased production to the purchasing agencies or at the peasants' market. The peasants are being asked to fulfill their delivery obligations on time, to ensure the improved supply of the population.

The people-owned purchasing and compulsory delivery agencies must guarantee the fulfillment of their plans in close collaboration with the local collection activists.

In forestry, the production of wood must be increased through better care of resources. The cutting of close-grained wood is to be reduced to 89.7 percent of the 1954 cutting. Reforestation is to be 4.2 percent more than for the comparable 1954 period. More rapidly growing wood types, such as poplars, Douglas firs, and acacias, must be planted.

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## VI. CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The 1955 performance of the building industry is to be 6.5 percent greater than in 1954.

The total volume of urban and rural residential construction in 1955 is to be one third greater than in 1954. The residential building program of the government is to be increased 7 percent, cooperative residential construction must be at least quadrupled, and individual residential construction is to be doubled.

As part of the state's housing construction program, the large building projects in the centers and workers settlements of the cities are to be continued. State residential construction at the MTS and on the people-owned farms in particular are to be quadrupled as compared to 1954.

In the building industry in general, and especially in residential construction, the quality of all building work must be considerably improved. This applies primarily to the finishing of the interiors. At the same time it is important to economize in the use of building materials, in particular wood for interior and for trimming purposes (Einbau- und Vorhalteholz).

In 1955, the building industry must be primarily oriented towards the introduction of industrialization in construction. To carry out industrialization, standard-type projects must first be developed and made mandatory. These require the rapid development of scientific data, such as designing standards, technical-economic indicators, and pilot projects, all based on new construction methods and designs. An agency for the industrialization in building is to be established in every Bezirk in 1955.

The chairmen of the Bezirk Councils are responsible for the execution of these tasks, while special technical instruction is to be provided by the Ministry of Construction.

In rural construction, increased consideration is to be given to building with locally available raw materials.

The responsibility of the local state organs for all construction is being considerably enlarged through the establishment of Bezirk building enterprises through the transfer of the designing offices to the Bezirke, through the operation by the Bezirke of hitherto centrally operated building material enterprises, through the role of the Bezirk administrations as suppliers of building material, and through the increased development of cooperative and private building activity.

The local state organs must therefore exercise increased initiative with regard to building matters. Technical aid and instruction by the central organs must be considerably improved in this connection.

To solve the great goals of construction, it is important that local legislative bodies and local state organs exercise definite control over all building activities within their jurisdiction and also that they promote intensive consideration of all building problems in the council sessions.

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# VII. DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND TASKS OF POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

In 1955, the Reichsbahn must increase the transportation of goods 6.8 percent over 1954 performance. In the interest of better utilization of freight space, the turnaround time of freight cars must be reduced from 3.05 to 2.98 days, while the loading of freight cars must be increased from 15.42 tons to 15.55 tons.

Specific coal consumption in 1955 is to be reduced by 2.3 percent as compared to the 1954 figure.

Utilization of the available passenger cars and arrangement of the timetable must be improved to meet the constantly growing demand.

Freight transportation by inland waterways is to be increased 17.9 percent and by ocean shipping 44.7 percent over comparable 1954 figures.

Truck transportation must increase the volume of freight carried by 4.6 percent.

Utilization of the capacity of people-owned motor transport enterprises must be bettered by 15 percent through increased introduction of the two-shift system and through improved organization of the transportation enterprises.

Commuter [bus] transportation facilities for workers as well as the opening-up of agricultural sections through regular [bus] line transportation must also be improved.

Performance in postal and telecommunication services is to be increased 2.3 percent as compared to 1954 performance; of this, mail traffic must increase 2.5 percent and parcel post traffic 4 percent.

Postal rental container traffic must be expanded in 1955.

Five hundred new post offices are to be established in rural areas and the net of routes of the rural mail trucks is to be expanded, especially in the northern Bezirke.

The network of teletype connections must be expanded and, in particular, must be increased by 100 connections for the MTS.

Mail delivery in the cities must be improved, and transmitting time for mail has to be shortened.

# VIII. RETAIL SALES AND CONSUMER GOODS SUPPLY

Retail sales in 1955 must be increased 3 percent as compared to 1954 sales. The share of industrial goods in the total sales must be raised to 42.3 percent.

State, cooperative, and private trade must continue to influence production in order to extend the success achieved in 1954 in expanding the assortment and improving the fashion attraction and colorful appearance of merchandise.

The network of sales centers for industrial goods in rural areas must be expanded primarily through consumer cooperatives.

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Mail-order trade, based on catalogues, must be initiated in 1955 so that the demands of the population in rural sections can be better satisfied.

Profitability in the state and cooperative trade is to be improved; 1955 sales performance per employee in the state retail trade is to be 8.7 percent higher than 1954 performance. Costs in state retail trade are to be lowered by 6.09 percent. Funds available for merchandise in 1955 are to be increased 10 percent over 1954 funds.

The supply of a few important items is to be improved as follows:

	1955 Supply (% of 1954)
Fish and fish products	125
Fats, total	105
Eggs	120
Fluid milk (for human consumption)	112
Leather shoes	120
Knitted underwear, including that made of Perlon	115
Ladies' hosiery made of Perlon	183
Artificial silk	103
Motorcycles	200
Refrigerators	600
Cameras	111

As they began to do last year, state and cooperative trade organs must continue to influence to an increased extent the quality and variety of production and the mobilization of local reserves for the improvement of the supply of merchandise.

#### IX. FOREIGN TRADE AND INTRA-GERMAN TRADE

Foreign trade in 1955 is to be increased by 5 percent over the 1954 figure. Exports or imports of certain important products will be as follows (in percent of 1954):

##### Exports

Mining products	111
Complete installations for machine building	132
Printing machinery	115
Locomotives	109
Machines and equipment for the textile industry	148
Rolling mill machinery	169
Typewriters	132

##### Imports

Rolled steel, all types	105
Iron ore	158
Raw phosphate and apatite concentrate	151
Petroleum	117
Natural rubber	169
Cotton	118
Fish and fish products	126
Wheat	168
Animal fats	372
Cocoa	132

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Foreign trade with the countries of the Soviet bloc is to be increased and strengthened. The GDR has always been and still is ready to expand its trade with the capitalistic countries on the basis of equality and mutual advantage.

A trade turnover of one billion accounting units is to be achieved in intra-German trade.

All export opportunities, especially for finished industrial goods, are to be seized to make possible increased imports of raw materials and food-stuffs.

The quality of the export products must be improved so that GDR merchandise may acquire world renown.

The foreign trade authorities must see to it that imports are received on time and in the desired quality. More than before, they must be guided by the principle of strictest economy, and above all, they must fight energetically for a lowering of costs in foreign trade.

#### X. INVESTMENTS

The total volume of state investments is to be increased 17 percent over 1954 state investments.

In 1955, investments in the industries listed below are to be as follows (in percent of 1954 investments):

Electric power	
Coal	120
Chemical industry	112
Building materials industry	135
Light industry	237
	110

Exceptional efforts must be made in agriculture to carry out the projected investment program. An amount of 1,168,000,000 DM, including licensed investments, credits, and owners' means, is to be invested in agriculture as a whole. Fifty million DM is to be made available for building homesteads in the agricultural producer cooperatives, and a total of 60 million DM for the individual farms of working peasants.

Investments during 1955 in the Bezirke will rise 45 percent over 1954 investments. Moreover, investments for assisting in the changeover of local agricultural enterprises into agricultural producer cooperatives are to be increased tenfold, investments for the communal economy 70 percent, and investments for the local industry, especially the building materials industry, 50 percent.

Utmost economy is to be observed in carrying out investments and the best results possible are to be achieved with the least means. It is essential to avoid a scattering of the investment funds and it is important further to reduce the extent of unfinished investment projects. No increase is permitted of the costs stipulated for each project in the plan. All efforts have to be concentrated on completing the investment buildings on time.

#### XI. WAGE DEVELOPMENTS AND INCREASE IN LABOR PRODUCTIVITY

The economy as a whole is to employ 71,000 more workers in 1955 than in 1954, primarily in agriculture. The main task consists of getting qualified industrial workers for agriculture and in adopting comprehensive measures for their placement according to plan.

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In 1955, the economy as a whole must provide vocational training for 187,000 young people in order to meet the need for specialized workers for the coming years.

Labor productivity per production worker in the socialist industries is to be increased 5.2 percent in 1955 as compared to 1954.

Ministries, chiefs of main administrations, chairmen of Bezirk Councils, and managers of enterprises must take the necessary steps to:

Reduce work stoppages and waiting periods

Organize production on the basis of production flow charts

Apply the findings of science to the development of modern technology

Make mandatory the introduction of innovator methods

Continue systematically establishing technically based work norms

The percentage of production workers in the total number of employed must be further increased.

The total 1955 wage fund of the economy is to be increased by 2.8 percent over the 1954 wage fund.

The ministries, state secretariats, and Bezirk councils are required to take appropriate measures so that their planned payroll is not exceeded

Workers' protection and technical safety in the enterprises must be further improved. Working conditions must be created which are conducive to enhancing the working pleasure and increasing the discipline of the workers.

#### XII. REALIZATION OF ECONOMY MEASURES, LOWERING OF TOTAL PRODUCER COSTS, AND INCREASE IN PROFITABILITY OF ECONOMY

It has been shown by the economic conferences held in large enterprises that it is possible to increase the profitability of enterprises, through co-operation with the workers and employees, and thus to eliminate government subsidies.

In the centrally administered people-owned industry, a lowering of total producer costs by 4.5 percent is to be achieved in 1955.

Total producer costs in the local industry are to be lowered by 3.5 percent, in the building industry by 6.6 percent, and in railroading by 3.7 percent. Turnover costs of retail trade are to be reduced by 5.1 percent.

The lowering of total producer costs in the centrally administered industry carries with it a reduction of the average per-unit material costs by at least 4.7 percent, and of at least 3.9 percent of the wage costs per unit of production.

The managements of the enterprises must take special care to support fully and in every respect the fight of the workers for the profitability of the economy. The ministries and factory managers must see to it that the savings achieved in production are not cancelled out by bad work in other production departments and by bureaucratic methods of administrative organs in the enterprises or in the government.



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The ministries, especially the Ministry of Finance, must make sure that the most significant figures (Kennziffern -- coefficients, economic indicators) of the finance plan and of the production plan are properly correlated.

### XIII. DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL, HEALTH, AND WELFARE FACILITIES

The number of students studying at universities and schools of higher learning is to be increased to 63,240 and the number of students taking correspondence courses to 16,600. The number of teachers at these institutions of higher learning is to be raised 12 percent.

The vocational schools should enroll 125,390 pupils. The number of evening school students is to be increased 12 percent as compared to 1954. The number of full-time teaching personnel at the technical schools is to be increased 9 percent.

The work of teachers and educators in the schools is to be further improved, especially in the northern Bezirke of the GDR.

Theater and concert facilities in rural areas are to be expanded. The number of people attending such performances is to be increased to about 21 million.

Motion picture presentation is to be further improved through the erection of new motion-picture theaters and through expansion of existing facilities. Film production is to be increased to 475 films [a year], 17 of which are to be feature films.

The cultural houses of the people-owned economy are to be used to a greater extent for cultural celebrations of the population.

A merger of the numerous small libraries in communities, enterprises, and agricultural producer cooperatives should provide the working population with the basis for a better and wider selection of books. It should also furnish the opportunity for trained specialist advice.

The major part of the sports stadium in Leipzig is to be finished in preparation for the all-German gymnastics and sports event in 1956. The indoor swimming pool in Rostock, now under construction, is to be opened for use [in 1955].

Health and social care for the population must be further improved. A total of 3,900 beds are to be added to the existing bed capacity in hospitals, spas, sanatoriums, and convalescent homes. The establishment of areas of jurisdiction and of location for stationary and ambulatory health facilities is to be continued. The supply of beds in old-age homes and in nursing homes is to be raised to 79,800. The over-all number of polyclinics is to be increased to 374; five additional polyclinics are to be established in people-owned enterprises.

The health care of the rural population is to be strengthened through the construction of 28 additional rural polyclinics and through improved services in doctors' offices.

For the care of infants, 11,200 places must be newly established in day nurseries and in permanent children's homes.

The number of doctors and intermediate medical cadres is to be further increased. The medical training schools must provide 3,650 graduates in intermediate medical professions for the government health service.

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